**COUNCIL OF GOVERNOR’S August 20, 2022**

**NEW VOICES by MD5 coordinator Crystal Dueker**

At the Montreal International convention, Past Inter. President Gudrun Yngvadottir led a seminar about the creation and purpose of New Voices. Most of the men on her Board of Directors asked “What are you going to do to increase the number of women in Lions?” She explained how she met with various women from around the world in Lions leadership, created a pilot plan to test New Voices and how the Board supported the plan. She says, “We gave many women a voice and we listened to them; we also focused on minority and under-represented groups. We also focused on the young. Leo Lions were on my Board of Directors.” One of them, she pointed out, was Leo-Lion Sebastian from Romania with 45 members in his club and how they had raised $5,000 to serve 4,800 people. Gudrun added that inspired Lions are likely to serve more, recruit more new members, and spread our message.

PID Elizabeth Haderder from the Netherlands/ New Voices chair for Europe also shared her experiences. She told the room that New Voices is a platform about inspiration, to share new ideas and success stories. Marketing builds our reputation. To the incoming District Gov.’s in the room; she suggested their local nominees could be asked to speak throughout their district and serve as role models. They should encourage and mentor others to take up leadership roles.

Ms. Sangeeta Jatia from India (The Global New Voices chair for 2018 and 2019) explained to over 100 international Lions in the room about starting without a budget and using virtual meetings to getting the pilot programs started in 2018 and its impact worldwide today. We would not have had success without PIP Gudrun. Now it is an LCI initiative.

Nicole LePage (The C1/ Canada chair) stood up to say “We did get more women members worldwide; we gave them confidence and we gave them leadership positions.”

Before the seminar; many incoming DG’s asked for copies of my 3-year New Voices collection to help clubs in their districts learn what is possible from the various stories compiled from MD5.

**Calgary USA/Canada:** There will be a New Voices seminar. Canadian Global chair Nicole LePage has invited me to be part of her presentation and to bring more copies of the 3-year collection.

**FINDING APPRENTICE:** phone calls have been made to various MD5 Lions asking for names of Lions who might accept becoming my apprentice this year or next year. On August 4th, Past Club President Marje Kaiser of the newly chartered Aberdeen Lioness Lions club responded to my message. More information about her agreeing or not will be known by August 20th. After calling PCC John Emmett for advice, he said that if Lion Marje accepts the invitation, she would do well as the next New Voices coordinator.

**GOAL:** to have all the New Voices nominees from each of the 6 districts collected and compiled into my report by November 1st, as requested by LCI. Also, with the help of DG Jeannette Bean, to have a zoom meeting sometime in September and another in early October.